



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

October 13, 2024 ~ 10:00 a.m.
Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
In Person & Live Streamed

Change your life

*We the willing, led by the unknowing, are doing the impossible for the ungrateful.
We have done so much, with so little, for so long,
we are now qualified to do anything, with nothing. – Mother Teresa*

{A reminder to persevere in acts of kindness and compassion, even when faced with ingratitude}.

Gratitude as a Lifestyle

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~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

Please stand if able. **Bold denotes unison response.*

CHIMES

Karen Needham

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Those wishing to make a brief announcement are asked to be in the front pews at the start of the announcement period. Prayer request cards may be found on the tables at the back of the church.

PRELUDE

Still My Soul, Be Still

Getty/Townend

As we settle into worship, let us take a moment to quiet our minds and hearts. Breathe deeply and release any tension. Imagine yourself surrounded by the peace of God. Feel His presence enveloping you, offering comfort and reassurance.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us gather in the soft silence of this moment, seeking the presence of the Divine.

In this sacred space, may we find peace and serenity.

We come to You, O God, seeking Your guiding light.

May Your love envelop us, and Your grace sustain us.

We open our hearts to receive Your blessings, acknowledging Your infinite wisdom and power.

Let us worship You with gratitude and reverence, for Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness.

***HYMN**

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Pilgrim (Red) #353

***GATHERING PRAYER & *THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Dear God, we gather here today with hearts full of gratitude. Forgive us for moments of ingratitude, when we fail to see Your hand in our lives. Teach us to cultivate a spirit of thankfulness, to focus on the abundance we have rather than what we lack. We thank You for the countless blessings You have bestowed upon us. Help us to always recognize and appreciate the good in our lives, even in times of difficulty. May we never take for granted the love, support, and opportunities we receive each day. Let our hearts overflow with gratitude, bringing us closer to You and to one another. In Your holy name, we pray. Amen.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end, Amen, Amen.*

OFFERING

Let us express our gratitude for the many blessings we have received from God. In response to His goodness, we invite you to participate in our offering. Your contributions will support the vital ministries of our church, enabling us to continue serving our community and spreading the love of Christ. May your offering be a reflection of your heart's gratitude, a tangible expression of your faith.



OFFERTORY

Let the Lower Lights Be Burning
Senior Choir

Howard Helvey

***Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God for all that love has done,
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Loving Lord, we bring these offerings before You as a token of our gratitude for Your countless blessings. May they be used to further Your kingdom and to bless the lives of others. We dedicate this offering to Your glory and for the advancement of Your work in the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE



Luke 17:11-19 Pew Bible pg. 853

SERMON

Is Gratitude Enough?

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



Joys & Concerns
Moment of Silence
Pastoral Prayer

*HYMN

For All the Saints

Pilgrim (Red) # 306

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Sevenfold Amen
Senior Choir

*POSTLUDE

Laudate Dominum

W.A. Mozart

The Worship is ended ~ Our Service Now Begins

Interim Minister: Rev. Kurt Satherlie
Director of Music: Mary Lou Keefe
Asst. of Faith Formation: Karen Needham
Office Manager: Kristen DiMattia

Ministers: Every Member
Dir. of Faith Formation: Hollace Bristol
Sexton: Walt LeGeyt
Deacons: Beth Lingenheld & Paul Stansel